

Disposal of Hospital Waste

2364. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering an project submitted by Kerala Government for financial assistance for implementing the scheme for disposal of hospital waste for the district hospitals in Kerala at a cost of Rs. 3.56 crores; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The Government of Kerala has informed that a proposal for waste disposal from General/District hospitals in the State was sent to the Planning Commission in October, 1995. The Planning Commission requested in Sept., 1995 the Government of Kerala to suitably modify the proposal. The Planning Commission has reported that the modified proposal has not been received.

Percentage of GNP for Education

2365. SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the recommendation of Kothari Commission to raise the allocation of Centre and State for education;

(b) whether the Government have since taken action on that; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) The Education Commission, 1964-66, under the Chairmanship of Dr. D.S. Kothari Projected that the educational expenditure, in the country as a whole should rise to 6 per cent of the Gross National Product by 1985-86.

(b) and (c) The National Policy on Education 1986 had inter-alia stated that from the Eighth Five year Plan onwards, the outlay on Education should uniformly exceed 6 per cent of the National income. The Government has also committed in its Common Minimum Programme that 6 per cent of the Nation's GDP will be earmarked for Education. The budgeted expenditure on Education as percentage of GDP has increased from 1.9 per cent in 1967-68 to 3.3 per cent in 1994-95 (RE).

Passport Offices in Assam

2366. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of passport offices in Assam, location-wise;

(b) the average number of applications processed every month in the said office;

(c) whether there is any delay in the issue of passport in the said office;

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal to open more number of passport offices in the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) There is one passport office in Assam located at Guwahati.

(b) The average number of applications processed in Regional Passport Office, Guwahati is 694 per month.

(c) No, Sir. Passports are being issued within 35 to 40 days from the date of receipt of applications.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Allocation to Aids Treatment

2367. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of latest treatment of the AIDS and the HIV positive cases;

(b) whether any research or study had been conducted by Ayurvedic Colleges and other institutions to develop medicine for treating these diseases;

(c) the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any specific financial allocation in the Ministry to carry out such activities; and

(e) if not, whether Government propose to make specific allocation for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) A statement on details of latest treatment of the AIDS and HIV positive is enclosed.

(b) and (c) In Ayurveda treatment for AIDS is being tried in T.B. Hospital at Tambaram, Chennai and JJ Group of Hospitals at Mumbai. Trials are also going on in homoeopathy medicines in Chennai and Mumbai and results are still awaited.

(d) and (e) An allocation of Rs. 3.39 crores has been made so far to carry out the research studies by the Government.